

Declaration and Power of Attorney For Patent Application

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am an original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled "MODULAR LATCH APPARATUS AND METHOD" (Attorney Docket No. 87801/9004), the specification of which

(check one) ☐ is attached hereto.
☒ was filed with my authority, on September 29, 1999 as Application Serial No. 09/408,993.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

And I hereby appoint JOSEPH A. GEMIGNANI, (Reg. No. 19,482), ROBERT E. CLEMENCY (Reg. No. 19,287), DAVID B. SMITH (Reg. No. 27,595), DAVID R. PRICE (Reg. No. 31,557), CASIMIR F. LASKA (Reg. No. 30,862), DAVID L. DE BRUIN (Reg. No. 35,489), TIMOTHY M. KELLEY (Reg. No. 34,201), BILLIE JEAN STRANDT (Reg. No. 36,940), THOMAS A. MILLER (Reg. No. 36,871), KEVIN P. MORAN (Reg. No. 37,193), GERALD L. FELLOWS (Reg. No. 36,133), DEREK C. STETTNER (Reg. No. 37,945), EDWARD R. LAWSON (Reg. No. 41,931), DANIEL S. JONES (Reg. No. 42,697), ANDREW R. PERET (Reg. No. 41,246), RANDALL W. FIELDHACK (Reg. No. 43,611), CHRISTOPHER B. AUSTIN (Reg. No. 41,592), RICHARD H. MARSCHALL (Reg. No. 39,290), SHELDON L. WOLFE (Reg. No. 43,996), GRADY J. FRENCHICK (Reg. No. 29,018), TERESA J. WELCH (Reg. No. 33,049), LINDA BLAIR MEIER (Reg. No. 39,769), PAUL F. DONOVAN (Reg. No. 39,962) and KAREN B. KING (Reg. No. 41,898), Michael Best & Friedrich LLP; and ROBERT S. BEISER (Reg. No. 28,687), WITOLD A. ZIARNO (Reg. No. 39,888), and W. DENNIS DREHKOFF (Reg. No. 27,193), Michael Best & Friedrich (Illinois), and each or any of them, my attorneys or agents, with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS IN OR PERTAINING TO THIS APPLICATION TO:

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I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of the foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s)

<u>Application Number</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Day/Month/Year Filed</u>
<u>Application Number</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Day/Month/Year Filed</u>

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of the United States applications listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

<u>09/263,415</u>	<u>March 5, 1999</u>	<u>Pending</u>
Application Serial No.	Filing Date	Status

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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Inventor's signature

Steven J. Dimig

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20 DEC 99

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